MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

WILMINGTON, DEL., OCTOBER 21, 1862, 7½ P. M.

The Synod of Pennsylvania met, agreeably to adjournment, in the Central Presbyterian Church, and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, on Psalm LXVIII: 3. "*Let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea let them exceedingly rejoice.*" After the religious exercises, the Synod was constituted with prayer. The roll was made out, and is as follows, viz:—

I. Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
John C. Smith, D. D.		
Byron Sunderland, D. D.		
Halsey Dunning.		
T. B. McFalls.	W. J. Redstrake.	Assembly's.
John N. Combs.		

Absent.—Wm. McLain, D. D., Mason Noble, Moses Jewell, Andrew G. Carothers, A. D. Hollister, and Wm. B. Evans.

II. Presbytery of Philadelphia, Third.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
Michael Burdett.		
John Patton, D. D.		
Charles A. Smith, D. D.	Anson Jewell.	Western.
Charles Brown.		
B. B. Hotchkin.		
John Jenkins, D. D.	Hon. Wm. Strong.	Calvary.
Wm. W. Taylor.		
Ezra E. Adams.	Benedict D. Stewart.	N. Broad.
Thomas S. Johnston.	A. J. Andrews.	Mantua.
John McLeod.		
Daniel March.		
David C. Meeker.*	John McClure.	W. Nantmeal.
Henry Darling, D. D.		

*Not present at the opening of Synod.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
William E. Moore.	Lambert Clark.	West Chester.
Epaminondas J. Pieree.*		
J. Glentworth Butler.		
James MeCaskie.		
H. Augustus Smith.		
Frank L. Robbins.	Isaac Ashmead.	Green Hill.
John O. Blythe.*		
S. W. Crittenden.		
William Ottinger.		

Absent.—Joseph McCool, James M. Davis, Peter Parker, Nathaniel Frost, Marcus E. Cross, Isaac Wetherill, Walter S. Drysdale, John W. Dulles, Edwin D. Newbery, George Van Deurs, J. Hervey Beale, and Anthony Simpson.

III. Presbytery of Philadelphia, Fourth.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
Thomas Brainerd, D. D.		
Robert Adair.		
Richard Walker.*		
James Boggs.		
Charles F. Diver,	Eleazer S. Bateman.	Cedarville.
Douglas K. Turner.		
Thomas J. Shepherd.	Eli H. Eldridge.*	Northern Liberties.
Joseph G. Williamson.	Wesley Bird.	Bethlehem.
Cornelius Earle.		
Daniel G. Mallery.		
James Y. Mitehell.		
Albert Henry Barnes.		
Alfred J. Snyder.		
Richard A. Mallery.		
	John Clouds.	Kensington.
	S. T. Bodine.	Germantown.

Absent.—Albert Barnes, Amasa Converse, D. D., David Malin, D. D., Jacob Helfenstein, D. D., Charles Boyter, Elias J. Richards, Cornelius S. Conkling, William T. Eva, Edward B. Brown, Horatio S. Howell, Andrew Culver, Henry S. Osborne, Benjamin Judkins, Jr., J. Addison Whitaker, George W. Cox, John B. Reeve, Albert Erdman.

IV. Presbytery of Wilmington.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
Nicholas Patterson.		
George Foot.	George B. Clarke.	Pencader.
H. J. Gaylord.*	Jesse Ash.	Delaware City.
George F. Wiswell.	Dr. Bush.	Central, Wil.
George Hood.		
William Aikman.	Thomas C. Alricks.	Hanover St., Wil.
John W. Mears.		
J. Garland Hamner.		
Isaac Riley.		
	John C. Clark.	St. Georges.

Absent.—D. Hopkins Emerson, Matthew Meigs, and Francis Hendricks.

V. Presbytery of Harrisburg.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
Jeremiah Miller.		
William Sterling.		

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
Conway P. Wing, D. D.	Charles Ogilby.	Carlisle, 1st.
Thomas H. Robinson.		
Thomas Street.	H. McClellan, M. D.	York.
James Dickson.*		

Absent.—Charles W. Gardiner, Wm. R. DeWitt, D. D., John W. Davis, Harmon Loomis, William Tracy, Leeds K. Berridge, Charles M. Blake, and Alexander D. Moore.

The Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., was chosen moderator, and Rev. Isaac Riley, and William Ottinger, temporary clerks.

The printed minutes of the last Synod were distributed.

The Committee on Religious Exercises, reported in part, recommending that the Synod meet daily at 9 A. M., and spend three-fourths of an hour in devotional exercises; that it take recess from 12 to $2\frac{1}{2}$, and that a missionary meeting be held to-morrow evening, at $7\frac{1}{2}$. The report was adopted.

The Rev. Thornton A. Mills, D. D., of the Synod of Indiana, Rev. George W. Coan, of the Synod of Genessee, and Rev. Henry Burge, of the Black River Association, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Synod adjourned. Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 9 A. M.

The Synod met and spent three-fourths of an hour in devotional exercises. Business was resumed. The Roll was called, and Rev. D. C. Meeker, E. J. Pierce, Richard Walker, Cornelius Earle, Albert Henry Barnes, C. P. Wing, D. D., and James Dickson, with Elders Eli H. Eldridge, John C. Clark, Jesse Ash, and Charles Ogilby, answered to their names, and assigned reasons for late attendance, which were sustained. The minutes of last evening's session were read, corrected, and approved.

Rev. A. H. Wright, M. D., of the Synod of Virginia, a missionary of the American Board, to the Nestorians, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon, to receive the narratives and statistical reports of the Presbyteries.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees, viz:

I. ON BILLS AND OVERTURES.—Thos. Brainerd, D. D., Byron Sunderland, D. D., Rev. Geo. F. Wiswell; *Elders*, H. McClellan, M. D., and Lambert Clark.

II. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE.—Rev. George Foot, Charles A. Smith, D. D., Thomos Street; *Elders*, Hon. W. Strong, W. J. Redstrake.

III. On Minutes of General Assembly.—Rev. J. G. Butler, J. G. Williamson, Halsey Dunning, ; *Elders*, Geo. Bush, M. D., Wesley Bird,

IV. On the Narrative.—Rev. E. E. Adams, T. B. McFalls, Frank L. Robbins; *Elders*. S. T. Bodine, E. S. Bateman.

V. On Leave of Absence.—Rev. Wm. Sterling, Wm. Aikman, D. K. Turner; *Elders*, Thomas C. Alrichs, A. J. Andrews.

VI. On the Treasurer's Accounts.—*Elders*, John Clouds, Isaac Ashmead, W. J. Redstrake.

VII. On Presbyterial Records.

1. District of Columbia.—Rev. Thos. H. Robinson, James McCaskie, James Boggs; *Elder*, Dr. Bush.

2. Philadelphia 3rd.—Rev. Geo. F. Wiswell, J. N. Combs, R. A. Mallery; *Elder*, H. McClellan, M. D.

3. Philadelphia 4th.—Rev. John W. Mears, S. W. Crittenden, Wm. Sterling; *Elder*, W. J. Redstrake,

4. Wilmington.—John Jenkins, D. D., Byron Sunderland, D. D., Rev. J. Miller; *Elder*, John Clouds.

5. Harrisburg.—Rev. Halsey Dunning, J. G. Butler, Thos. J. Shepherd; *Elder*, Geo. B. Clark.

Resolved.—That the next Stated Meeting of the Synod, be held in the Assembly's Church, Washington, D. C., on the third Tuesday, the 20th day of October, 1863, at 7½ P. M., and that Rev. T. B. McFalls, B. Sunderland, D. D., John C. Smith, D. D., and W. J. Redstrake, Elder, be a Committee of Arrangements, and also of Religious Exercises for the next meeting of Synod; to report a schedule of subjects for discussion at this meeting.

A communication was received from Mr. John C. Cole, Secretary of the "Wilmington Institute," tendering to the members of Synod the use of its Library and Reading Room during their stay in the city. The invitation was accepted, and the thanks of the Synod returned.

The Synod's permanent Committee on Church Extension reported as follows, viz: "That since the last meeting of Synod no application has been made through your Committee for aid from the Church Erection Fund. From the report of the Trustees of the Fund to the General Assembly, we learn that the balance of the sum apportioned to this Synod, is $1831.00. The term of service of the Committee expires during the present Synod."

The report was accepted, and the Committee re-elected, viz: Rev. Robert Adair, John McLeod, Wm. E. Moore. Messrs. John C. Farr, Jos. H. Dulles, Thomas Potter, and James W. Boyd.

The Committee on "An Educational Institution," reported progress, and asked to be continued, which was granted.

It was made the order of the day for 11½ A. M., to hear Thornton A. Mills, D. D., on the subject of Education for the Ministry.

The Committee to attend the examination of Union Theological Seminary, reported. The report was accepted and the Committee discharged. The following were appointed the Committee for the ensuing year, viz: Rev. Halsey Dunning, G. F. Wiswell, Daniel March, T. J. Shepherd, and C. P. Wing, D. D.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that 11 this A. M. be fixed as the time for the discussion of the first subject on the programme, and 3½ P. M. for the second. Also, 10 o'clock to-morrow A. M. for subjects three and four, and 3 P. M, for subjects five and six. The report was adopted.

A committee of three, viz: Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., John Jenkins, D. D., and C. P. Wing, D. D., were appointed to prepare a minute on the death of Rev. B. J. Wallace, D. D.

Reasons were assigned by letter and otherwise, for the absence from the present sessions of Synod of Rev. Wm. McLain, D. D., Wm. B. Evans, John W. Dulles, Nathaniel Frost, Chaplain, J. Hervey Beale, Chaplain, Anthony Simpson Chaplain, Albert Barnes, Wm. T. Eva, Andrew Culver, H. S. Howell, Chaplain, J. Addison Whitaker, Chaplain, D. H. Emerson, and William Tracy, Foreign Missionary, which were severally sustained.

The Committee appointed at the last Synod, "To prepare a memorial to the Government expressing the views of the Synod on the subject of Chaplaincies," reported, that owing to the death of Dr. Wallace, Chairman of the Committee, it had not been called together, and the action of the Government seeming to remove the necessity for such memorial, they asked to be discharged, which was granted.

"*Resolved*, That Henry Darling, D. D., Hon. Wm. Strong, Rev. Wm. E. Moore, Hon. Jos. Allison, Rev. B. B. Hotchkin, S. C. Perkins, and H. J. Williams, Esqs., be a Committee to consider the terms on which the Church Erection Fund is disbursed, and any other points connected with the subject, and that they have power to memorialize the General Assembly on the subject, if they find occasion, and also that they report to the next meeting of the Synod."

Absentees from the last, and former meetings of Synod were called upon. Rev. R. A. Mallery, Nicholas Patterson, George Foot, and James Dickson, assigned reasons for non-attendance, which were sustained.

Absentees from the roll call at the close of the last Synod were called upon. The Rev. E. E. Adams, H. A. Smith, J. McCaskie, Frank L. Robbins, D. G. Mallery, Wm. Aikman, and Elder John C. Clark were heard in self-defence, and were excused.

The order of the day was taken up, and Rev. J. G. Hamner addressed the Synod on "The responsibility of the Church for her children and youth." The subject was continued to the next meeting of Synod, and Rev. J. Garland Hamner appointed to discuss it.

The Rev. Thornton A. Mills, D. D., was heard, as by previous order, on Education for the Ministry, when it was

"*Resolved*, That the Synod has heard with pleasure the address of Thornton A. Mills, D. D., on the subject of Education for the Ministry, and entertaining an earnest wish for the consolidation of our entire educational work, hereby appoint the following committee, viz: Rev. J. G. Butler, John Jenkins, D. D., Charles Brown, and Elder S. T. Bodine, to confer with the Philadelphia Education Society, with which this Synod has heretofore cöoperated, as to the desirableness of its more thorough incorporation with the General Assembly's Committee."

The Synod took a recess until 2½ P. M.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 2½ P. M.

The Synod resumed business. The narratives and statistical reports of the Presbyteries of Harrisburg, Wilmington, District of Columbia, Philadelphia 3d, and Philadelphia 4th, were received, and the narratives read, and put in the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

Rev. J. O. Blythe, and A. J. Snyder, appeared in Synod and gave reasons for late attendance, which were sustained.

The Committee to prepare a minute on the death of Rev. Dr. Wallace, reported as follows, viz:

"WHEREAS, The Rev. B. J. Wallace, D. D., departed this life on the 25th day of July last.

"*Resolved*, That the Synod hereby express its high appreciation of his character, as a christian and minister, his deep clear views of truth; his earnest defence of Bible doctrines; his stern loyalty to our national government; his manly attitude in the trials of our church, and of our country; his sincere Godliness; his learning, and his general worth; and that, bowing submissively to the Providence which has taken him from among us, we deeply mourn our loss, while we rejoice in his higher exaltation and joy."

The report was adopted, and the Stated Clerk directed to forward a copy of the above resolution to the widow and family of the late Dr. Wallace.

The order of the day was taken up, and Rev. E. E. Adams addressed the Synod on "The relative position of courage in the circle of Christian virtues."

After some remarks by Rev. John W. Mears, it was

"*Resolved*, That the proposal to supply the volunteers, who have gone from the churches and congregations of this Synod with the American Presbyterian, is regarded with great favor by the Synod, not only as a kindly and patriotic act, but as calculated to promote the spiritual interests of the volunteers, and as furnishing a regular channel of communication, and a bond of union between them and the churches at home.

Resolved, That it be recommended to every church to take up a collection, or otherwise to contribute to the expenses of this effort."

The Committee to examine the Records of the Presbyteries of Philadelphia 3d, Harrisburg, Wilmington and District of Columbia, reported, severally recommending their approval as far as written. The reports were adopted.

The Committee on the Records of the 4th Presbytery of Philadelphia, reported, recommending their approval, as far as written, with the following exception, viz:

"That the name of Amasa Converse, D. D., now a resident of Richmond, and according to common fame, an aider and abetter of the rebellion, is still upon the rolls of the Presbytery, and would suggest that the Presbytery be instructed to inquire into the expediency of taking measures to have his name erased from their roll."

The report was adopted. Synod took recess till 7½ P. M.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22, 7½ P. M.

The Synod resumed business. Rev. John McLeod, Chairman of the Synod's Committee, presented the Annual Report on Foreign Missions. The report was adopted, and the following Committee chosen for the ensuing year, viz: Rev. John McLeod, Philadelphia 3d, Thos. J. Shepperd, Philadelphia 4th, Thos. H. Robinson, Harrisburg, Halsey Dunning, District of Columbia, and H. J. Gaylord, Wilmington.

Addresses of great interest were made by Rev. G. W. Coan, and A. H. Wright, Missionaries of the American Board to the Nestorians; whereupon it was

"*Resolved*, That the Synod has heard with deep interest, the statements in regard to the work of Foreign Missions, by Rev. John McLeod, Secretary of the Board, and Messrs. Coan and Wright, Missionaries, and would cordially recommend the American Board to the renewed confidence and liberality of the churches during the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the faithful observance of the monthly concert of Prayer for Missions, is recommended to all the churches, as a chief means of keeping up a due degree of interest, and of promoting the success of the cause.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to call the attention of the churches, which, according to the report of Synod's Committee, have failed to contribute during the year, to their duty in this regard."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, OCT. 23, 9 A. M.

The Synod met, and after spending three-fourths of an hour in devotional exercises, resumed business. The roll was called. Rev. H. J. Gaylord assigned reasons for late attendance, which were sustained.

The Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read, corrected and approved.

The Committee of Arrangements further reported, recommending that the Synodical Communion be celebrated this evening. The Moderator to preside and offer the Invocation, and read the Hymn. Reading of the Scriptures and prayer by Rev. Geo. Foot. Address and distribution of the bread by Rev. H. Dunning. Prayer and distribution of the cup by Rev. Dr. Wright. Address by Rev. Daniel March. Hymn and benediction by Rev. Wm. Sterling. The report was adopted.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported. The report was accepted, and the first item, viz:—on Home Missions, was put on the docket.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were offered by Dr. Brainerd, viz:

"WHEREAS, The Synod is called once more to meet in the midst of a civil conflict, which has carried desolation and suffering through wide districts of country. Therefore

Resolved, 1. That we render devout thanksgiving to Almighty God for that measure of success which has hitherto attended our armies; that we humble ourselves, and acknowledge the justice of our Heavenly Father, wherever he has seen good to afflict us; that we rejoice in the integrity, the patriotism, and the firmness of our distinguished Chief Magistrate; that we record with lively satisfaction his avowal of a purpose to protect the Union of these States, and the nationality of our government at every expense of treasure and blood, and that he has recently, by his repeated proclamations, expressed his determination to subordinate every local interest and institution to the great cause of American freedom, of good government, and of the universal and permanent safety and prosperity of his native land.

2nd. That this Synod express its highest approbation of the brave, faithful, and true-hearted men, who have volunteered for their Country's protection; that we sympathize with them in their hardships and sufferings; that we give them the assurance of our daily and fervent prayers, for their triumph in the day of battle, for their consolation if cast down wounded, for their comfort in the hospital, and their support in sickness, and in death.

3rd. That in the bloody martyrdoms of this wicked rebellion, we recognize new motives to abhor the crime of treason against Law, and new inducements to condemn and abrogate that system of oppression which has not only suggested treason, but the most cruel and bloody methods of putting it into practice. And we urge upon all loyal people to mark with their complete abhorrence, all who resist the efforts of the Government for its suppression.

4th. That in the labors of our ministers and people, for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers; in the readiness of parents, wives, sisters and friends, to surrender their objects of dearest affection to the perils of war; in the large contributions of money and goods made to the Government to aid in suppressing this unholy rebellion; in the patient endurance with which our people have borne themselves in seasons of social bereavement and national disaster, we recognise a blessed revival of patriotism, humanity, and christian devotion, to the pure, the generous, the noble, the right."

The Resolutions were adopted unanimously, the Synod rising, and the members of Synod residing in Washington, were appointed a Committee to present them to the President of the United States in person.

The Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, reported that they have examined the account and vouchers and find them correct. They recommend the following assessment for the ensuing year, viz:

Presbytery of the District of Columbia,	- -	$12 00
" Philadelphia, 3rd,	- - -	30 00
" Philadelphia, 4th,	- - -	30 00
" Wilmington,	- - - -	20 00
" Harrisburg,	- - - -	18 00

The report was adopted.

The order of the day was taken up, and Rev. John McLeod addressed the Synod, on "The perpetuation of the revival spirit in the Church." Rev. C. P. Wing, D. D. addressed the Synod on "America, the special field for the American Church, a lesson from the times."

The report of the Committee on the minutes of the General Assembly was called up, and the Rev. Robert Adair addressed the Synod upon the first resolution of the report. Remarks in behalf of the General Assembly's Committee on Home Missions were also made, by Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., after which the report of the Committee was adopted, and is as follows, viz:

"The Committee of the Synod, on the Minutes of the General Assembly, present the following report, and recommend its adoption.

1. Synod heartily approves the resolution of the Assembly encouraging its permanent Committee on Home Missions, in the vigorous prosecution and enlargement of their work; and Synod especially commends to all our Churches the proposed effort to secure the sum of $75,000 during the current year for the Committee's use.

2. The Synod responds most earnestly to the entire action of the last General Assembly with reference to the unholy rebellion, still actively engaged in seeking the overthrow and destruction of our National Constitution and Government.

3. In reviewing the Report of the Assembly's Standing Committee on Publication, Synod takes occasion to renew its expression of confidence in the wisdom and efficiency of the existing plan of operations pursued by the Permanent Committee on Publication.

4. Synod commends to the attention of Pastors and Elders the report on Systematic Benevolence, (on p. 41,) and, in accordance with the 6th Resolution of that report, Synod would commend the American Board of Foreign Missions, and the several Committees on Home Missions, Education and Publication, as leading objects for Christian beneficence in all our Churches.

5. Synod warmly approves the introduction of the subject of Sunday School instruction to the consideration of our General Assembly, and Synod expresses the hope that the recommendation of the General Assembly, concerning statistical reports from the Sunday Schools connected with its Churches will be faithfully responded to by the Stated Clerks of Presbyterics, and by Pastors, Sessions, and Sunday School Superintendents.

The Moderator, Rev. John C. Smith, D. D., on account of pressing engagements, obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of the Synod. Rev. Thomas H. Robinson, the last Moderator, took the chair.

Pending a discussion on Home Missions, the Synod took recess until 2½, P. M.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2½, P. M.

The Synod resumed business.

The subject of Home Missions was called up, and after remarks by Rev. John McLeod and G. F. Wiswell, the following preamble and resolutions offered by Rev. R. Adair, were adopted, viz :

WHEREAS, The General Assembly at its late meeting resolved to aim to raise, through its Synod and Presbyteries during the present year $75,000 for Home Missions, and

WHEREAS, The present state of the Country, and the necessities of the Missionary Churches, imperatively call for uncommon zeal and diligence on the part of the Pastors and Churches to secure this amount, therefore

Resolved, That Rev. Robert Adair, Henry Darling, D. D., and Benedict D, Stewart, Elder, be a Committee to take into consideration this subject; to prepare and address to the several Churches connected with this Synod, a brief statement and appeal in behalf of the cause of Home Missions, so as to aid in securing the Synod's full proportion of the amount needed by the Assembly's Permanent Commitee."

The Chairman of the Judicial Committee reported that no business had been put into the hands of the Committee, and asked to be discharged which was granted.

The Chairman of the Committee on Bills and Overtures made a like report, and the Committee was discharged.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that for weighty and satisfactory reasons they had granted leave of absence to the following persons, viz : Rev. T. J. Shepperd, S. W. Crittenden, B. B. Hotchkin, John Jenkins, D. D., Thos. H. Johnston,

Jno. Patton, D. D. and Charles Brown ; Elders, Hon. Wm, Strong, John Clouds, B. D. Stewart, and Anson Jewell.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Synod was addressed by Rev. Frank L. Robbins, on "The appropriate sphere of the Pulpit." The Rev. Thos. H. Robinson was excused from addressing the Synod on the subject assigned him, viz : "The duty of the Church to create and conserve a Denominational Literature."

The Committee of Arrangements for the next meeting of Synod reported a schedule of exercises as follows, viz :

1. The responsibility of the Church for its children and youth. Rev. J. G. Hamner; alternate, Rev. D. G. Mallery.

2. The office of Deacon, its relation to the Church and its duties. Rev. John Jenkins, D. D.; alternate, Rev. Wm T. Eva.

3. The Kingdom of God in the world—how it affects, and is affected by the kingdoms of this world? Rev. E. E. Adams ; alternate, Rev. J. G. Butler.

4. The Church; who are entitled to its privileges? Rev. Wm. R. DeWitt, D. D.; alternate, Rev. Thos H. Robinson.

5. Is it in accordance with the Gospel for a Christian to take up the sword under any circumstance? Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D.; alternate, H. Darling D. D.

6. The duty of the Church to create, and conserve a denominational literature. Rev. Thomas H. Robinson ; alternate, T. J. Shepherd.

The report was accepted and adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the Trustees of this Church, the members of the congregations, and to the citizens of Wilmington, for their kind hospitalities to the members of Synod."

"*Resolved*, That five dollars be paid to the Janitor for his services in attending upon the Synod."

"*Resolved*, That two hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of this meeting of Synod be published and distributed under the direction of the Stated Clerk."

The Synod having completed its business, and many of its members having left, or being about to leave, the order of the day for this evening, being the Synodical Communion, was indefinitely postponed, and it was ordered that hereafter the Communion be celebrated on the second evening of the session.

The Minutes were read, corrected and approved. The roll was called, and the following members found absent and unexcused, viz: Byron Sunderland, D. D., Charles A. Smith, D. D., A. Henry Barnes, John W. Mears, and Isaac Riley. *Elders.*—A. J. Andrews, and Wesley Bird.

The Synod adjourned to meet on the 3d Thursday, the 20th day of October, 1863, at 7½ P. M., in the Assembly's Church, Washington, D. C. Concluded with singing, prayer and the apostolical Benediction.

WM. E. MOORE, Stated Clerk,
West Chester, Pa.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The religious condition of the Churches within the bounds of the Synod, does not differ essentially from that reported in the last minutes.

It appears that in some of the Churches the troubles that strike so deeply at our national life have been unfavorable to the cultivation of personal reiigion, and general growth in grace. In many instances, however, the Committee are happy to learn, the influence has been quite the reverse.

Revivals are reported from several Churches, from one at least, a large number of conversions.

It is worthy of notice that the congregations which have been most forward in their expressions and deeds of loyalty, whose Pastors have stood forth with greatest fervor and boldness for union and freedom are not among those which the excitement of the times and the spirit of war, have chilled or diverted from a heathful, religious life.

Our Churches are largely represented in the army; many, therefore, who were wont to take part in the meetings for Prayer, and in the Sabbath Schools, are missed, but their places are generally supplied by others. The general attendance on appointed means of grace, is not diminished. In some instances it is larger than in the previous years, and in others possibly less. Some new Church edifices are in progress, notwithstanding the "troublesome times."

The attention of the people has been warmly elicited by the sufferings of our Soldiers, and by the crisis that is upon the Country, and we feel assured that, while the sympathies and the beneficence of the Churches have been, to a great degree, turned into other channels than those of their ordinary flow, Christians have, during the year, been learning great lessons of sacrifice, of humaneness, and of piety, and we are pursuaded that the discipline through which we are passing in the providence of God, will result in larger benevolence, in deeper views of obligation to God, in broader developements of scriptural knowledge, and in a more intense and powerful religious life, when we shall again be permitted to pursue our rectilinear way of duty and of privilege. This temporary diversion, while it has not diminished our principle, our faith in God and truth, will prepare us by the Divine blessing, for a deeper current of feeling and of ministration in the christian life.

While we trust in the wisdom and goodness of God, receiving His discipline with meekness, we may hope for His perpetual presence and His abounding grace.

JOHN C. SMITH, Moderator.

Wm. E. Moore, Stated Clerk,

APPENDIX.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD FOR 1862–63.

Moderator—Rev. JOHN C. SMITH, D. D., Washington, D. C.
Stated Clerk—Rev. WM. E. MOORE, West Chester, Pa.
Treasurer—A. SNOW NAUDAIN, Esq., Phila., Pa.
Temporary Clerks—Rev. ISAAC RILEY, Middletown, Del.; Rev. WM. OTTINGER, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE PRESBYTERIES.

1st. District of Columbia, Formed 1831.
Moderator—John C. Smith, D. D., Washington, D. C.
Stated Clerk—William McLain, D. D. " "
Treasurer—Leonidas Coyle, " "
Number of Ministers, 11.
" " Churches, 9.
" " Members, 1378.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.—Received Rev. John Combs from the Baltimore Conference of the M. E. Church, and installed him Pastor of the Western Church, Washington, March 9th, 1862.

2nd. Philadelphia 3rd, Formed 1832.
Moderator—Rev. D. C. Meeker, Wallace.
Stated Clerk—Rev. J. G. Butler, West Phila.
Treasurer—Geo. W. Fobes, Esqr., Phila.
Number of Ministers, 33.
" " Churches, 22.
" " Members, 3451.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.—Oct. 31st, 1861, received Rev. W. W. Taylor from the Presbytery of Geneva, and installed him, Nov. 3rd, as Pastor of Olivet Church. Oct. 31st, organized and enrolled the 2nd Church of Mantua. Jan. 29th, 1862, dissolved the Pastoral relation between Rev. M. Burdett and the 2nd Church, Darby. Received Mr. J. Henry Beale, a Licentiate from the 3rd Presbytery of New York, and ordained him as an Evangelist. Feb. 21st, 1862, received Rev. Daniel March from the Woburn Association, Mass., and installed him as Pastor of Clinton St. Church, Feb. 23rd. April 9th, licenced Anthony Simpson to Preach the Gospel. April 29th, received

Rev. John McLeod from the 4th Presbytery of Phila. Dismissed Rev. Robert Adair to the 4th Presbytery. July 21st, dismissed Rev. Alfred Taylor to the 2nd Presbytery of Phila. August 14th, ordained Anthony Simpson as an Evangelist. October 7th, received Rev. Wm. Ottinger from the Presbytery of Des Moines. Oct. 21st, reeeived Rev. S. W. Crittenden from the 3rd Presbytery of New York.

Rev. B. J. Wallaee, D. D., died July 25th, 1862.

3rd. Philadelphia 4th, Formed 1845.
Moderator—Rev. Robt. Adair, Norristown.
Stated Clerk—Rev. Thos. J. Shepherd, Phila.
Treasurer—Wm. Purvis, Phila.
Number of Ministers, 30.
" " Churehes, 27.
" " Members, 6240.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.—*Dissolved the Pastoral relation* of Rev. Charles R. Bliss, to the Chureh at Beverly, Nov. 18th, 1861. Of D. G. Mallery to the Central Church, Norristown, Jan. 18, 1862. Of Rev. Benjamin Judkins, Jr., to the Church at Allentown, Oct. 15, 1862.

Received, Rev. R. Adair from the 3rd Presbytery of Phila., May 3rd, 1862, and installed him Pastor of the Central Presbyterian Chureh, Norristown. Rev. James Y. Mitchell from Newton Presbytery, Oet. 15th, 1862, and installed him Pastor of the Central Church, N. L., Oct. 26th, 1862.

Dismissed, April 9th, 1862, Rev. Wm. J. Erdman, to Onondaga Presbytery. Rev. Jno. MeLeod to the 3rd Presbytery of Phila., and Rev. Charles R. Bliss, to the Hampden East Association. Sept. 29th, 1862, Ira C. Tyson, Lieentiate, to North River Presbytery, and John F. Baird, Lieentiate, to Harrisburg Presbytery. October 15th, Charles D. Shaw, Lieentiate, to Newark Presbytery, and Rev. John Ward to North River Pres. bytery.

Licensed, April 10th, 1862, Charles D. Shaw, and Ira C. Tyson.

Ordained, Sept. 29th, 1862, Albert Erdman, *sini titulo*.

4th. Wilmington, Formed 1833.
Moderator—Rev. Franeis Hendricks.
Stated Clerk—William Aikman, Wilmington, Del.
Treasurer—R. C. Hall, Esq., Milford, Del.
Number of Ministers, 12.
" " Churehes, 15.
" " Members, 1431.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.—Reeeived, March 5th, 1862, Isaac Riley, Licentiate, from the Presbytery of Montrose, and

Ordained and Installed him Pastor of the Forest Church, Middletown, Del.

Received, Oct. 1862, Rev. Francis Hendricks, from the Presbytery of Harrisburg.

5th. Harrisburg, Formed 1839.

Moderator—Rev. Jno. W. Davis.
Stated Clerk—C. P. Wing, D. D., Carlisle, Pa.
Treasurer—Jas. W. Weir, Harrisburg.
Number of Ministers, 14.
" " Churches, 9.
" " Members, 1214.

CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.—*Received* Rev. Charles W. Gardiner, Oct. 15th, 1862, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick. *Dismissed*, Rev. Leeds K. Berridge, Oct. 18th, 1862, to the 3rd Presbytery of Phila. Licensed Mr. John L. Landis, Oct. 15th, 1862. The Church at Mt. Pleasant was stricken from the Roll, Oct. 18th, 1862, its members having united with another body.

STANDING RULES OF SYNOD.

I. The roll of each meeting shall be made out from rolls of Presbyteries furnished to the Stated Clerk of Synod by the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries, at least one week previous to the meeting of Synod.

II. The rules affixed to the Book of Government for the direction of Church judicatories, are the rules of Synod.

III. Members of Synod cannot absent themselves from its meeting without neglect of duty, unless prevented by sickness or other Providential dispensations.

IV. Members of Synod absent from its sessions shall, by letter, assign reasons for such absence. Those absent twice in succession, shall be notified of their delinquency by the Stated Clerk of Synod, and called on for reasons of absence.

V. A season of prayer and praise shall be observed each day of the Synodical sessions, previous to the transactions of business.

VI. One or more discourses shall be delivered during the sittings of Synod, at the discretion of the Pastor and Elders of the Church where Synod meets.

VII. A prayer meeting, with addresses, shall be held on one afternoon of the sessions of Synod, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Synod, Presbyteries, Sessions and Churches within its bounds.

VIII. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be celebrated at each annual meeting of Synod, on the second evening of the session.

IX. Each Pastor, on the Sabbath immediately preceding the meeting of Synod, shall remind the Church under his care of the fact of such meeting, and solicit their earnest supplication to God on behalf of Synod, for wisdom and guidance in their deliberations, and for a general revival of religion within its bounds.

X. The first Monday in January of each year, or such other day as the general Assembly may appoint, is recommended to be observed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer throughout our Churches, for the outpouring of the influences of the Holy Spirit. The Pastors to preach on the Sabbath preceding that day, on the subject of the revival of religion.

XI. A committee of one from each Presbytery shall be appointed at each annual meeting of Synod, to attend the examinations of the Union Theological Seminary in New York, and report thereon to Synod.

XII. A permanent Committee of Foreign Missions shall be appointed annually, consisting of one minister from each Presbytery, whose duty it shall be to attend to the interests of Foreign Missions in their several Presbyteries, especially to see that a contribution to this cause is made in each church annually, and to report regularly to Synod the amount of these contributions, and any other matters adapted to advance the cause of Christ in foreign lands.

XIII. The place of the meetings of Synod shall be determined by a majority, and not by a plurality of votes. After the first ballot, the two places having the greatest number of votes, shall alone be voted for.

XIV. Statistical Reports of Presbyteries, after being read in Synod, shall be given to the Stated Clerk of Synod, to place on file.

XV. Members of a Committee bringing in a report, have a right to vote on any question arising out of that report.

XVI. At the close of the sessions of Synod, the roll shall be called, and the names of absentees marked.